

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

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O P 131115Z DEC 74 ZFF4

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6596

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

USCINCEUR

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, GR, PFOR, GR, U.S., CY, MARR

SUBJECT: GEORGE MAVROS LEADS OPPOSITION REBUTTAL TO PM'S POLICY

ADDRESS

REF: ATHENS 8808

BRUSSELS FOR THE SECRETARY

1. SUMMARY: EX-FONMIN GEORGE MAVROS, CU/NF LEADER, IN RESPONDING TO PM CARAMANLIS' POLICY STATEMENT AS FIRST SPOKESMAN OF PARLIAMENTARY OPPOSITION REMARKED DECEMBER 12 THAT EVERYONE WISHED RELATIONS WITH U.S. WERE BETTER. HE ADDED THAT U.S. HAD FAILED TO DISPLAY INTEREST IN CYPRUS IN TIME TO AVERT DISASTER AND AGREED THAT PM WAS CORRECT IN STATING THAT BILATERAL AGREEMENTS ON ESTABLISHMENT OF U.S. BASES IN GREECE REQUIRE REVIEW. MAVROS SAID "I BELIEVE THAT IT IS RIGHT, IMPERATIVE AND CONSISTENT WITH CONCEPT OF SOVEREIGNTY TO PLACE UNDER CONTROL ALL FOREIGN MILITARY BASES IN GREECE." END SUMMARY.

2. GEORGE MAVROS' LENGTHY REPLY TO GOVERNMENT'S POLICY STATEMENT

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DELIVERED BY PM CARAMANLIS ON DECEMBER 11 IS EXCERPTED BELOW AS

IT INVOLVES U.S. BASES AND CYPRUS.

A. RELATIONS WITH U.S. "WITH REGARD TO RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. EVERYONE WISHES THEY WERE BETTER. UNFORTUNATELY IT IS NOT OUR RESPONSIBILITY BECAUSE THEY ARE NOT GOOD. AND THIS DOES NOT REFER ONLY TO THE RECENT TRAGEDY OF CYPRUS WHERE THE U.S. DID NOT DISPLAY INTEREST IN TIME TO AVERT DISASTER. IT (THE U.S.) DID NOT SET INTO MOTION THE INTERNATIONAL MACHINERY TO PREVENT WHAT HAPPENED. THE PRIME MINISTER SPOKE YESTERDAY ABOUT THE REVIEW OF THE BILATERAL AGREEMENTS CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AMERICAN BASES IN THIS COUNTRY. I THINK IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN MORE CORRECT HAD THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT ALL THE FOREIGN MILITARY BASES WHICH EXIST IN THE COUNTRY WILL BE PLACED UNDER NATIONAL CONTROL JUST AS WE PLACED UNDER CONTROL OUR MILITARY FORCES ON AUGUST 14 WHICH UNTIL THEN WERE UNDER NATO COMMAND IN BRUSSELS." I THINK THAT IT IS CORRECT, IMPERATIVE AND CONSISTENT WITH THE CONCEPT OF OUR SOVEREIGNTY THAT WE PLACE UNDER CONTROL ALL FOREIGN MILITARY BASES IN GREECE."

B. CYPRUS. FOLLOWING HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION OF EVENTS SURROUNDING CYPRUS CRISIS AND STATEMENT DEPLORING TRAGEDY ON ISLAND, MAVROS REMARKED THAT "HANDLING CYPRUS MATTER CREATES A SERIES OF PROBLEMS AND QUESTION MARKS...BETWEEN JULY 15 AND 20 THERE WAS COMPLETE INERTIA ON PART OF ALL GREAT POWERS, ESPECIALLY ON PART OF U.S. WHICH WAS ABOUT TO RECOGNIZE SAMPSON AS LAWFUL PRESIDENT OF REPUBLIC. THAT IS AT LEAST HOW THINGS APPEARED. WHEN I WAS IN THE U.S. I TRIED TO ASCERTAIN THE MEANING OF THAT AND I ASKED THE SECRETARY OF STATE WHO IN RESPONSE TOLD ME THAT WE (THE U.S.) DID NOT WANT TO DISAPPROVE OF SAMPSON BECAUSE THIS EVENTUALLY WOULD HAVE BEEN AN INCENTIVE FOR TURKEY TO INTERVENE. OF COURSE THIS ANSWER WAS NOT CONVINCING BECAUSE BETWEEN JULY 20-23 BOTH HAPPENED, INTERVENTION TOOK PLACE AND SAMPSON WAS OUT OF OFFICE. THIS OBSERVATION DOES NOT PERTAIN ONLY TO U.S. IT ALSO CONCERNS THE OTHER LARGE NUCLEAR SUPERPOWER WHICH HAD DEMONSTRATED--I DON'T WANT TO SAY--INDIFFERENCE BUT IT DID NOT SHOW THE INTEREST WHICH WAS DEMONSTRATED IN THE 1964-65 CRISIS IN CYPRUS WHEN EVIL HAD BEEN AVOIDED WITH THE INTERVENTION OF THE GREAT POWERS... BOTH PARTIES OFFERED ME REASSURANCES THAT INDEED AN AGREEMENT WAS BEING ADVANCED WHICH WOULD NOT BE TO THE DETRIMENT OF GREECE NOR CYPRUS. HOWEVER, THE SITUATION IN CYPRUS CONTINUES JUST AS IT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WAS THREE MONTHS AGO WITH NO IMPROVEMENT WHILE THE WINTER APPROACHES..." MAVROS CONTINUED "THE POLICY WE MUST FOLLOW ON THE CYPRUS ISSUE IS QUITE CLEAR. OUR POLICY IS THAT THE CYPRUS ISSUE IS NOT A SUBJECT TO BE RESTRICTED BETWEEN ATHENS AND ANKARA. IT CONSTITUTES AN IMMENSE INTERNATIONAL PROBLEM. NO AGREEMENT CONCLUDED BETWEEN ATHENS AND ANKARA CAN POSSIBLY BE IMPOSED ON CYPRUS. THE CYPRUS PROBLEM CAN BE SOLVED ONLY THROUGH A FREE AGREEMENT CONCLUDED BETWEEN THE TWO COMMUNITIES OF THE ISLAND

THROUGH FREE NEGOTIATIONS. PARTITION IS EXCLUDED, AS WELL AS ANY
OTHER SOLUTION WHICH LEADS INDIRECTLY TO PARTITION AND TO
THE DESTRUCTION OF THE ISLAND'S INDEPENDENCE. NO DISPLACEMENT OF
POPULATIONS CAN BE TOLERATED BY GREECE. THIS, I BELIEVE, IS
THE POLICY AS OUTLINED BY THE PRIME MINISTER. NATURALLY A
COMPLETE DEMILITARIZATION OF THE ISLAND WILL FOLLOW SO THAT NO
FOREIGN SOLDIERS WILL BE LEFT."

STEARNS

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